

**DRAFT MINUTES OF
FAUQUIER COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION**

November 2, 2009

Community Meeting

7:00 p.m.

Fauquier High School - cafeteria,

705 Waterloo Road, Warrenton, Virginia

The Fauquier County Planning Commission held a community meeting on Monday, November 2, 2009, beginning at 7:00 p.m., Fauquier High School cafeteria, 705 Waterloo Road, Warrenton, Virginia.

Members present were Mr. Jim Stone, Chairman, Ms. Ann McCarty, Mr. John Meadows, Ms. Adrienne Garreau and Mr. Ken Alm. Board of Supervisors members present were Mr. Terry Nyhous and Mr. Peter Schwartz. Also present were Mr. Rick Carr, Ms. Melissa Dargis and Ms. Cynthia Porter Johnson.

Route 211-17 Connector Reservation Area

Mr. Carr opened the meeting and introduced the Planning Commission members. He then provided a PowerPoint presentation regarding the Board of Supervisors' initiated amendment to the Warrenton Service District Plan. It included discussion of the presentations maps and reports regarding the "reservation area". Maps and presentation boards describing: (a) the corridor's chronology in the County and Town Comprehensive Plans; (b) Circuit Court Decree regarding Gold Cup and the St. Leonard's Farm rezoning; (c) Warrenton Broadview Avenue Access Management Study (HNTB); (d) a "walk-through" of the entire corridor, including maps highlighting elevations and 100-year floodplain and photographs of existing conditions; and finally the (e) proposed Warrenton Service District Plan amendment.

Staff also had "sign-in" sheets (see attachment 1) for attendees as they entered the meeting, provided copies of the proposed amendment to the Warrenton Service District Plan, and comment sheets for attendees to submit their questions and/or concerns to the Planning Commission (refer to Attachment 2). Over 150 residents attended the meeting.

After the presentation, The Planning Commission took questions and comments from the audience. Over twenty members of the public spoke, with the majority of speakers opposing the corridor connection. The following list highlights citizen comments:

- Project will be for the convenience non-residents and inconvenience residents in the Gold Cup & Silver Cup neighborhoods;
- Resident speakers from Gold Cup and Silver Cup stated concerns over the resulting cut-through traffic, while other neighborhoods in Warrenton conversely felt the connection would provide traffic relief in their neighborhood streets;
- Street impacts on school, athletic facilities and student safety;
- Type of connector road crossing of Lower Waterloo Road;
- Questioned the length of the connector. Support raised for other alternatives; e.g. (a) interconnection between Old Waterloo Road and Bear Wallow Road; (b) Route 211 to Bear Wallow Road; (c) development of a parallel road to Broadview Avenue with acquisition of residential homes; (d) do nothing;
- Build a true western side bypass that does not go through the community (residential);
- Planning Commission recommend a “no reservation” option recommendation to the Board of Supervisors;
- Elimination of the Foxcroft Road connection to Route 17 with a connection from Bear Wallow Road to Old Waterloo Road;
- Traffic noise impacts concern through the Gold Cup and Silver Cup neighborhoods;
- Fear of the traffic volumes that may use any future road linking Route 211 to Route 17, based on the HNTB study;
- Resident concerns on noise, pollution, visual impacts, safety of kids & value of homes
- Piedmont Street absorbs traffic from Broadview Avenue, need sidewalks for the safety of the residents;
- Keep traffic out of residential neighborhoods;
- Want the details on type of road to be built (2-lane or 4-lane);
- Resident complaints that were not told about the parkway when they purchased their homes in the Silver Cup neighborhood;
- Need to identify how the existing athletic fields at the high school will be protected;
- Requested more information on how land would be acquired for the road (e.g., eminent domain);
- Requested information on whether the proposed road could be built sooner than the 25+ year estimate;

- Asked whether a public road or reservation corridor of this nature go through the St. Leonard's Farm VOF easement on the southern end of the project (response: No, not as recorded);
- Identified need for Traffic lights timing and how to improve traffic flow;
- General statements and questions regarding funding sources – local, state, federal – in times of limited transportation dollars;
- Statements of concern over perceived loss of fields at the high school and/or athletes or students playing on fields too close to the road;
- Potential of loss Fenton Farm to future development; through it) ; and
- Environmental impacts to habitat, wetlands and the Town of Warrenton reservoir.